

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: CASC, TW, US

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE TO US CITIZEN HANS O. NOETHER

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1. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY GERALDINE NOETHER THAT HER HUSBAND, HANS NOETHER, IS HAVING DIFFICULTY LIQUIDATING HIS BUSINESS AND SECURING AN EXIT PERMIT. HIS FAMILY IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT HIS WELFARE. NOETHER'S TAIWAN ADDRESS IS 59 HSIN MIN ROAD, PEITOU 112, TELEPHONE 981-3351. HIS OFFICE IS UNITED ENGINEERING AND SERVICES CORPORATION, 186 NANKING EAST ROAD, SECTION 3, TAIPEI.

2. MRS. NOETHER DESCRIBES THE SITUATION AS FOLLOWS:
NEOTHER BEGAN IMPORTING EUROPEAN CARS TO TAIWAN IN 1963. FOLLOWING GROC EMBARGO ON IMPORTED AUTOS, THREE YEARS AGO, NOETHER SWITCHED HIS BUSINESS INTO OTHER LINES, SUCH AS PRODUCTION OF MACHINERY/TOOLS FOR EXPORT TO AMERICAN JEWELRY MANUFACTURERS. AS RESULT OF BUSINESS DIFFICULTIES AND HIS WIFE'S HEALTH PROBLEM, NOETHER RECENTLY DECIDED TO LIQUIDATE HIS BUSINESS.

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3. MRS. NOETHER SAYS THAT TAIWAN POLICE SEIZED THE FIRM'S BOOKS, FILES AND OFFICE SAFE ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO. EMBITTERED EMPLOYEES ARE TAKING SUPPLIES AND OTHER ASSETS OF THE COMPANY AND THE FIRM IS NO LONGER ABLE TO CARRY ON BUSINESS. NOETHER'S TELEPHONE CALLS AND LETTERS INDICATE INCREASED MENTAL DEPRESSION. MRS. NOETHER RE-

VEALED THAT HE HAD A MENTAL BREAKDOWN IN 1944 AND FEARS POSSIBLE RECURRENCE. SHE SAYS THAT FAMILY FUNDS AS WELL AS HER OWN JEWELRY WERE IN THE OFFICE SAFE AND HER HUSBAND MAY SOON BE DESTITUTE.

4. ALTHOUGH NOETHER HAD A TAX CLEARANCE WHEN HE VISITED THE US IN DECEMBER 1976, TAIWAN AUTHORITIES MAY WANT AN ADDITIONAL NT THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLS. IN TAXES TO LET HIM LEAVE THE ISLAND. HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN SAY THEY ARE WILLING TO PAY THIS SUM IF NECESSARY TO FREE MR. NOETHER.

5. AS MRS. NOETHER IS EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT THE WELFARE OF HER HUSBAND, EMBASSY SHOULD LOOK INTO MATTER AND REPORT FINDINGS ASAP.
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